SOUTH HORNCHURCH & RAINHAM AREA COMMITTEE AGENDA

| 7.30 pm | Wednesday 14 October 2009 | South Hornchurch Community Hall Rainham Road Rainham RM13 7RD |

Members 6: Quorum 3

COUNCILLORS:

| Tom Binding (C) | Coral Jeffery |
| Michael Deon Burton (VC) | Mark Stewart |
| John Clark | Jeffrey Tucker |

**NB:** HAVERING STREETCARE STAFF WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE VENUE FROM 7:00pm TO RESPOND TO GENERAL QUERIES

For information about the meeting please contact: Richard Cursons (01708) 432430
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NOTES ABOUT THE MEETING

1. HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Council is committed to protecting the health and safety of all who attend its meetings or meetings of its Committees etc.

At the beginning of the meeting, there will be an announcement about what you should do if there is an emergency during its course. For your own safety and that of others at the meeting, please comply with any instructions given to you about evacuation of the building, or any other safety related matters.

2. MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES

Although mobile phones, pagers and other such devices are an essential part of many people’s lives, their use during a meeting of the Council or one of its Committees can be disruptive and a nuisance. Everyone attending is asked therefore to ensure that any device is switched to silent operation or switched off completely.

3. CONDUCT AT THE MEETING

Although members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the Council and its Committees, they have no right to speak at them. Seating for the public might on some occasions be limited and the Council cannot guarantee that everyone who wants to be present in the meeting room can be accommodated. At Area Committees, there is a public question time.

At all other times, the Chairman of the meeting has discretion to invite members of the public to ask questions or to respond to points raised by Members. Those who wish to do that may find it helpful to advise the Committee Officer before the meeting so that the Chairman is aware that someone wishes to ask a question.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE CHAIRMAN MAY REQUIRE ANYONE WHO ACTS IN A DISRUPTIVE MANNER TO LEAVE THE MEETING AND THAT THE MEETING MAY BE ADJOURNED IF NECESSARY WHILE THAT IS ARRANGED.

If you need to leave the meeting before its end, please remember that others present have the right to listen to the proceedings without disruption. Please leave quietly and do not engage others in conversation until you have left the meeting room.
AGENDA ITEMS

1. CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman or a member of staff on their behalf will announce details of the arrangements in case of fire or other events that might require the meeting room or building’s evacuation.

The Chairman will remind members of the public present, that Councillors have to make decisions on the basis of the facts before them. The Chairman will also remind members of the public that the decisions may not always be popular, but they should respect the need for Councillors to take decisions that will stand up to external scrutiny for accountability.

PART 1

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (If any) – to receive

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members are invited to declare any interests in any of the items on the agenda at this point of the meeting. (Members may still declare an interest in an item at any time prior to the consideration of the matter).

4. MINUTES

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 15 July 2009, and to authorise the Chairman to sign them.

PART 2

The time shown against this time indicates the expected duration and is given for guidance only. The meeting will close no later than 10:00pm, unless an extension is agreed at the meeting.
5. PUBLIC FORUM AND SURGERY (30 Minutes)

Ward Councillors, officers from Street Care and possibly other Council services and the Local Police where the Area Chairman has arranged, will be in attendance to give the chance for residents to raise issues with staff, the Police (if present) or Members.

PART 3

6. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

PART 4

7. REGENERATION IN SOUTH HORNCHURCH AND RAINHAM

Presentation by a representative from the Council’s Regeneration department.

PART 5

8. FUTURE AGENDAS

Committee Members are invited to indicate to the Chairman items they would like to see on future agendas.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at South Hornchurch Community Hall, Rainham Road, on Wednesday 27 January 2010.

10. URGENT BUSINESS

Other business can be considered at the meeting if the Chairman agrees that circumstances justify consideration on grounds of urgency. The reasons why the matters were considered will be recorded in the minutes.

CHERYL COPPELL
Chief Executive
Present:

COUNCILLORS:

Tom Binding (in the Chair), Michael Deon Burton, John Clark, Coral Jeffery and Jeffrey Tucker

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mark Stewart.

A representative of the Press and ten members of the public were present.

On behalf of the Chairman, the members of the public were advised of action to be taken in the event of emergency evacuation of the building becoming necessary.

There were no declarations of interest.

Unless otherwise indicated all decisions were agreed with no member voting against.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Nominations were sought for the office of Chairman of the Committee.

Nominations were received for Councillors Binding and Burton.

Following voting Councillor Binding was elected as Chairman of the Committee.

Councillor Binding assumed the Chair for the rest of the meeting.
2. **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Nominations were sought for the office of Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

A nomination was received for Councillor Burton.

Following voting Councillor Burton was elected as the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

3. **COMMUNITY AND POLICE CONSULTATIVE GROUP**

The Committee appointed Councillor Burton to represent it on the CPCG.

4. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held 1 April 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. **VISION FOR HEALTHCARE IN HAVERING**

Members received a short presentation from Chas Hollwey, Interim Chief Executive of NHS Havering, on the future of healthcare in the borough.

Members were advised that there were plans for Queen’s Hospital to be transformed into one of seven hyper-acute stroke centres, a new Polyclinic on the former Harold Wood hospital site, a Patient Liaison Service (PALS), improved information websites and earlier diagnosis of illnesses by GPs.

Members were also advised that there were plans to extend cancer screening programmes that would include earlier GP referrals.

Members were also advised that plans were in progress to open a polyclinic adjacent to the new school in Rainham village, there were also plans to open a GP satellite unit on the Mardyke Estate by 2010.

Members thanked the officer for his presentation.
6. LOWEN ROAD AREA – PROPOSED 20MPH ZONE

Members were presented with a scheme for the area within the boundary of Lower Mardyke Avenue, Lowen Road, Frederick Road, Betterton Road and New Road (A1306) was identified as a potential area for a 20mph Zone.

A bid was submitted to Transport for London for funding and was successful for work to be undertaken during the financial year 2009/10. A feasibility study had been carried out to identify speed restraint measures in the area. The proposed speed restraint measures involve the following.

- Speed limit changes from 30mph to 20mph.
- Raised speed tables
- Speed control humps
- 20mph roundels and 20mph signs

It was RESOLVED that the following proposals were agreed in principle and staff were authorised to undertake public consultation, together with statutory advertisement where required.

1. That the Area Committee approved the following in principle to:
   (a) Agreed the proposals of speed limit changes, raised speed tables, speed control humps, 20mph signs and 20 mph roundels. The locations of the proposals are summarised below:
      (i) Lowering the existing 30 mph speed limit to 20 mph in Askwith Road, Chantry Way, Frederick Road, Gerard Gardens, Lowen Road, Lower Mardyke Avenue, Lynbrook Close, Manser Road, Mardyke Close, New Road, Perry Close, Queens Gardens, Roman Close, Seaburn Close, South Street, Spencer Road and Walden Avenue.
      (ii) Raised speed tables outside property nos: 4/5/6/7 & 23/24/25/26/27 Lower Mardyke Avenue and 37/39/64 & 59/61/100/102 Frederick Road.
      (iii) Speed control humps along Askwith Road, Manser Road, South Street and Spencer Road
      (iv) 20mph roundels.
(b) Authorised staff to carry out a public consultation on the above proposals.

(c) Authorised the preparation and advertising of the traffic orders necessary to introduce the speed limit changes and statutory notices to speed tables and speed control humps.

(d) Delegated the approval process to the Head of Streetcare in consultation with the Chairman of the Area Committee, if changes were required to the proposals before going to public consultation.

(e) Delegated approval of the final scheme in the light of the results of the public consultation to the Head of Streetcare in consultation with the Chairman of the Area Committee.

2. Noted that the estimated cost of £75,000 be met from the Transport for London’s (TfL) 2009/10 financial year allocation to Havering for Local Safety Schemes.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would take place on Wednesday 14 October 2009 at 7.30pm at the South Hornchurch Community Hall in Rainham Road South Hornchurch.
PUBLIC FORUM

The following matters were discussed.

(i) Rainham Road – Pelican Crossing

A member of the public had previously asked if consideration could be given to installing a pelican crossing at the site of the traffic islands in Rainham Road opposite Travis Perkins. An officer present advised that although traffic flow made it difficult to cross at times the location had a reasonable pedestrian refuge. It was also explained that a lack of funding and casualty justification made it unlikely that a scheme could be considered.

(ii) Rainham Road/Stanley Road – Trees

A resident advised that the conifer trees outside of the new flats at the junction of Rainham Road and Stanley Road were overgrown and were now obscuring the traffic lights in Rainham Road. The resident advised that he had contacted the landlord, Swan Housing, but to date no action had been taken. An officer present undertook to see what action could be taken.

(iii) Phillip Road – Traffic Problems

A resident from Phillip Road advised that the speed humps that had been previously installed were proving to be ineffective in slowing traffic. The resident explained that traffic was still using the road at high speeds in particular vans and larger vehicles. An officer present explained that there was little that could be done to improve the recently added speed humps but he agreed to liaise with the resident over his concerns. It was agreed that speed surveys would be carried out once the school holidays were over to see if the traffic calming measures were working. The officer agreed to report back at a future meeting.

(iv) Rainham Road – HGV Traffic

A resident from Rainham road explained that there was a considerable amount of HGVs using the road and vibrating the houses as they passed. An officer explained that it was unfortunate that the road had
changed over the years from a quiet road to one more busy but the road was an A road and was expected to be used by all types of vehicles as a main road into the borough.

(v) Cherry Tree Lane/Newton's Corner – Traffic

Another resident advised that there existed a problem with speeding cars in the area between the Cherry tree lights and Newton's Corner. A Committee member explained that it was a police enforcement problem and that they would contact the local Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) to pass on the resident’s concerns.

(vi) Lambs Lane South – Vehicle Activated Signs

A member of the public advised that the vehicle activated signs in Lane South still showed the speed limit as 30mph even the area was now part of a 20mph zone. An officer present undertook to arrange for the signs to be re-positioned to Lambs Lane North and the other end of Lambs Lane South.

(vii) Viking Way - Walkway

A resident expressed concern over the closing of the walkway adjacent to the Tesco store. An officer explained that the walkway had been closed for public safety whilst re-development works took place and that it would be re-opened shortly once the works had been completed.

(viii) Area Committee Environmental Budget Spend

Members of the Committee agreed that a part of this year’s budget spend should be used on erecting a bench in the pathway opposite Castle Avenue in memory of former councillor Len Long. It was also suggested that any monies left over be used to finance the purchasing of bikes for the local SNT. The Chairman agreed to investigate both options.
I would like to take this opportunity to report what this Committee has achieved over the past year.

We were updated on landfill sites in the two wards, and I’m also regularly asking for updates/enforcement on Arnold’s Field as the site now has a new owner; believe it or not he was a director of the previous company who went bust and disappeared without remediating the site to the Planning Inspectorate’s requirements.

In January Paul Kennard and Ann Marie Dean of the Primary Care Trust answered questions from residents regarding the provision of a new Health Centre in Rainham which will be built at the same time as a new school in Upminster Road South.

I met Mr Charles Hollwey yesterday at Rainham Clinic and he has acknowledged that the clinic facilities are far from satisfactory and he is looking to reorganise the rooms to make it more suitable until the new clinic is built.

Over the past year various traffic calming measures have been installed in Cherry Tree Lane, Lowen Road and a 20 mph zone and other speed restraint measures in Rainham Village, plus the safer routes to schools scheme was implemented in Upminster Road South, Lambs Lane and Wennington Road.

A new planter and seat, funded by the Area Committee budget were installed at the junction of Cowper and Wennington Roads and new cycle racks outside South Hornchurch Clinic.

A village sign, funded from the Committee’s Corporate pot, will be erected on the small roundabout – hopefully in the autumn – at the junction of Bridge Road and Viking Way; the entrance to Rainham’s Conservation Area, and I have just heard from our Borough Engineer, Mark Philpott, that planning permission has been granted. Thanks, Mark, for all the hard work you have put in to help me achieve this.

Parking issues have been addressed in Mitchell Close, and a disabled parking bay installed.

Whilst we appreciate that some of these traffic calming measures may not be popular with all our residents, we do think it necessary to control speeds and install crossings on school routes, in an attempt to protect our children. Many of them are so intent on what they are doing that they fail to look out for dangers on the roads.

I would like to thank Members of the Committee for their support during the past year, and thanks also to Richard Cursons for his advice and help during these meetings.